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**PATENT**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Rajiv Kehr, et al.	Examiner:	To be assigned
Serial No.	10/684,068	Group Art Unit:	To be assigned
Filed:	October 9, 2003	Docket No.	60210-010101
Title:	SURGICAL SCALPEL WITH PROTECTIVE SHEATH		

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8**

Date of Mailing: June 10, 2004

I hereby certify that this correspondence and identified enclosures are being deposited with the United States Postal Service, first class mail, postage prepaid, under 37 CFR 1.8 on the date indicated, and addressed to MAIL STOP: IDS, Commissioner for Patents, Post Office Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

  
Name: Katie Yazgolian

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT [37 C.F.R. § 1.56]**

MAIL STOP: IDS  
Commissioner for Patents  
Post Office Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, applicant brings the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the examiner's attention. 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. Do not construe the filing of this information disclosure statement as a representation that applicant has made a search (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g)), or as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. We enclose copies of any cited foreign documents. Copies of the U.S. references are not enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted:

- ☒ 1. Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d), or within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491

in an international application; or before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, and therefore, Applicant believes no fee is required;

- ☐ 2. After the period specified in paragraph (1) above of this section, but before the mailing date of either a final action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, or a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. § 1.311, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- (ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. The fee for filing an Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is \$180.00.

- ☐ 3. After the period specified in paragraph (2) of this section, but on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:

- ☐ a. A statement that:

- (i) Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement; or

(ii) No item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months before the filing of the information disclosure statement;

- ☐ b. A petition requesting consideration of the information disclosure statement; and
- ☐ c. The petition fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i).

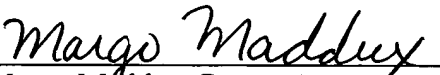
Applicant would appreciate the examiner initialing and signing a copy of attached Form PTO-1449 indicating that he or she considered the information and made the information of record.

If the transmittal letter is separated from this document and the PTO determines that an extension or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Authorization is hereby given to charge any fees due, or credit any overpayment of fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-2638.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 10, 2004

  
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FORM PTO-1449	Attorney Docket Number	60210-010101
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 1	Application Number	10/684,068
	Filing Date	October 9, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Rajiv Kehr, et al.
	Group Art Unit	To be assigned
	Examiner Name	To be assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 2,215,125	09-17-1940	Maltz, M.			
	US 4,719,915	01-19-1988	Porat et al.			
	US 4,823,457	04-25-1989	Prochaska			
	US 5,207,696	05-04-1993	Matwijow			
	US 5,254,128	10-19-1993	Mesa			
	US 5,299,357	04-05-1994	Wonderley et al.			
	US 5,309,641	05-10-1994	Wonderley et al.			
	US 5,330,493	07-19-1994	Haining			
	US 5,417,704	05-23-1995	Wonderley			
	US 5,475,925	12-19-1995	Newman et al.			
	US 5,478,346	12-26-1995	Capewell			
	US 5,481,804	01-09-1996	Platts			
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	US 5,599,351	02-04-1997	Haber et al.			
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	US 5,676,677	10-14-1997	Landis et al.			
	US 5,730,751	03-24-1998	Dillon et al.			
	US 5,749,886	05-12-1998	Abidin et al.			
	US 5,779,724	07-14-1998	Werner			
	US 5,797,940	08-25-1998	Mawhirt et al.			
	US 5,827,309	10-27-1998	Jolly et al.			
	US 5,843,107	12-01-1998	Landis et al.			
	US 5,868,771	02-09-1999	Herbert et al.			
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	US 5,938,675	08-17-1999	Gharibian			
	US 5,941,892	08-24-1999	Cohn et al.			
	US 6,015,419	01-18-2000	Strome et al.			
	US 6,022,364	02-08-2000	Flumene et al.			
	US 6,053,929	04-25-2000	Cohn et al.			
	US 6,254,621 B1	07-03-2001	Shackelford et al.			
	US 6,263,577 B1	07-24-2001	Wonderley			

FORM PTO-1449	Attorney Docket Number	60210-010101
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet 2	Application Number	10/684,068
	Filing Date	October 9, 2003
	Applicant(s)	Rajiv Kehr, et al.
	Group Art Unit	To be assigned
	Examiner Name	To be assigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	PATENTEE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	Des. 165,338	12-04-1951	McNutt, C.E.			
	Des. 223,795	06-13-1972	Covey, Laird F.			
	Des. 270,372	08-30-1983	Russo et al.			
	Des. 305,096	12-19-1989	Tench et al.			
	Des. 327,125	06-16-1992	Iten			
	Des. 336,029	06-01-1993	Ragland et al.			
	Des. 352,882	11-29-1994	Schmidt			
	Des. 360,817	08-01-1995	Moyer, Jr. et al.			
	Des. 399,720	10-20-1998	Owens et al.			
	Des. 455,061 S	04-02-2002	Huang			
	US 2002/0056198 A1	05-16-2002	Ping			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIALS	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY OR PATENT OFFICE	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS	
EXAMINER INITIALS	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	

Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE